

Name _____

The Adventures of Tom Sawyer
by Mark Twain
Comprehension Questions

Tom Plays, Fights, and Hides
Chapter One

1. Tom had played hooky and gone swimming. When Aunt Polly questioned him , he succeeded in making her believe he'd been in school. Describe in detail how she found out he'd been swimming.

2. While Tom is out walking, he meets a stranger. List two things that Tom finds astounding about him since it was a weekday.
3. The two boys fight. What is the outcome?

The Glorious Whitewasher
Chapter Two

1. How did Tom manipulate Ben Rogers into whitewashing the fence?
2. List five items that Tom acquired from the boys who whitewashed the fence.
3. Find and quote the law of human action that Tom discovered from the whitewashing incident.

Busy at Love and War

Chapter Three

1. After Tom had finished playing “war” with his friends, he sees Becky Thatcher in front of her house. Describe what happens.
2. What happens when Sid breaks the sugar bowl?
3. While Tom is feeling sorry for himself, what does he visualize in connection with Aunt Polly? With the new girl?

Showing Off in Sunday School

Chapter Four

1. Tom trades various items for tickets. How is a person supposed to earn the tickets and what can eventually be gotten with the tickets?
2. Why did Tom engage in the “ticket-trading” scheme?
3. What is the meaning of the closing statement, “Let us draw the curtain of charity over the rest of the scene.” ?

The Pinch Bug and his Prey

Chapter Five

1. Describe the incident in church that makes Tom feel that going to church wasn’t so bad after all.

Tom Meets Becky

Chapter Six

1. How does Tom try to get out of going to school?
 2. Why do the boys admire Huck Finn so much?
 3. What does Huck Finn plan on doing with the cat?
 4. Tom's punishment for being late to school was to sit with the girls. Why was Tom happy about this. Describe what happened.
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Tick-Running and a Heartbreak

Chapter Seven

1. What did Tom and Joe do when they became bored in school?
2. How did Tom upset Becky after they were supposedly engaged?
3. What was Becky's reaction when Tom tried to make up with her?

A Pirate Bold to Be

Chapter Eight

1. Cite examples that prove Tom was superstitious.
2. What do Tom's daydreams tell about him?

Tragedy in the Graveyard

Chapter Nine

1. Why had Tom and Huck gone to the graveyard?
2. What were Muff Potter, Injun Joe, and Dr. Robinson doing in the graveyard?
3. What grudge does Injun Joe hold against Dr. Robinson?
4. Who really killed Dr. Robinson?

Dire Prophecy of the Howling Dog

Chapter Ten

1. Why were the boys afraid to tell anyone what happened?
2. What did they do to make sure neither would tell?
3. What is the significance of the stray dog in this chapter?
4. What was the final feather that broke the camel's back?

Conscience Racks Tom

Chapter Eleven

1. Why did the boys want to watch Injun Joe at night?
2. Cite three things that Tom does that show his conscience is bothering him.

The Cat and the Painkiller

Chapter Twelve

1. What event has Tom more upset than the murder?
2. What did Tom do with his teaspoon of painkiller? Describe what happened.
3. How did Tom get Aunt Polly to discontinue giving him the medicine?
(Quote - Aunt Polly realizes that...)

The Pirate Crew Set Sail

Chapter Thirteen

1. Why was Tom going to run away?
2. What were the careers Tom, Joe, and Huck were going to take up?
3. Where did the boys go when they ran away?
4. Why do Tom and Joe have a hard time getting to sleep?

Happy Camp of the Freebooters

Chapter Fourteen

1. What was the thunder sound that the boys heard?
2. Who, according to Tom, did the townspeople think had drowned?

Tom's Stealthy Visit Home
Chapter Fifteen

1. Who does Tom see in the parlor of his house? What were they doing?
2. Why do you think Tom chose not to leave the note?

First Pipes "I've Lost My Knife"
Chapter Sixteen

1. Who wanted to go home first?
2. Why were Tom and Joe sick?
3. Why did the boys decide not to go home right away?
4. What frightened the boys at night?
5. Explain the meaning of the title of this chapter.

Pirates at Their Own Funeral
Chapter Seventeen

1. On what day was the funeral held?
2. Describe what happened at the funeral.
3. How were the boys received by their families and the congregation?

Tom Reveals His Dream Secret

Chapter Eighteen

1. How does Tom convince Aunt Polly that he does care for her?
2. Why does Tom reject Becky's kindness and attention?
3. How does Becky show her revengeful feelings towards Tom? (cite three examples)

The Cruelty of "I Didn't Think"

Chapter Nineteen

1. What must Aunt Polly know in order for her to "take" Tom's pranks?

Tom Takes Becky's Punishment

Chapter Twenty

1. What is the relationship between Tom and Becky at the beginning of the chapter?
2. Explain the parallel between the incidents of the spelling book and the anatomy book.
3. What is the relationship between Tom and Becky at the end of the chapter?

Eloquence and the Master's Gilded Dome

Chapter Twenty-One

No Questions

Huck Finn Quotes Scripture

Chapter Twenty-Two

1. Why does Tom want to be a member of the Cadets of Temperance?

The Salvation of Muff Potter

Chapter Twenty-Three

1. Compare and contrast the Tom who went to the graveyard and the Tom who testifies at Muff Potter's trial.
 2. List three things that show Tom's conscience is bothering him.
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3. What does Injun Joe do at the trial?

Splendid Days and Fearsome Nights

Chapter Twenty-Four

1. How do you know that Tom is afraid of Injun Joe?
2. How does Huck change?

Seeking the Buried Treasure

Chapter Twenty-Five

1. Describe the differences in how Tom and Huck each regard money.
2. Cite examples that show how midnight is important in the story.

Real Robbers Seize the Box of Gold

Chapter Twenty-Six

1. Give two reasons for Tom and Huck not going treasure hunting.
2. How did the two men discover the chest of gold?
3. What prevented Injun Joe from finding Tom and Huck?

Trembling on the Trail

Chapter Twenty-Seven

1. What does Number 2 mean?
2. How did the boys figure this out?

The Lair of Injun Joe

Chapter Twenty-Eight

1. What did Tom find when he opened the door of Number 2?
2. What do the boys decide to do?

Huck Saves the Widow

Chapter Twenty-Nine

1. Why does Tom want Becky to go to the Widow Douglas' house?
2. What had the Widow's husband done to Injun Joe that made him hate her?
3. What did Injun Joe have planned for his revenge on the Widow?
4. What did Huck do when he overheard Injun Joe's plans?

The Fate of Injun Joe
Chapter Thirty-three

1. How did Injun Joe die, and where was he found?
2. Where was the money?
3. What did Tom say would prevent Injun Joe's ghost from getting them in the cave?

Floods of Gold
Chapter Thirty-Four

1. Who was the Widow having the party for?
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2. What did the Widow say she'd do for Huck?
 3. How much money had the boys found?

Respectable Huck Joins the Gang
Chapter Thirty-Five

1. What did the townspeople start doing when they heard of Tom and Huck's find of the treasure?
2. How much money did the boys get a week?
3. How had Huck's life changed?
4. What did Tom tell Huck that persuaded him to go back to the Widow?